

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 00900 101301Z

43

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 /018 W

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R 101245Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9054

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 0900

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC TD

SUBJECT: AMSPEC JUDGE WILLIAM S. THOMPSON

1. DURING FIVE-DAY VISIT TO TRINIDAD, JUDGE WILLIAM S. THOMPSON MET BOTH FORMALLY AND INFORMALLY WITH TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS INCLUDING THE ACTING GOVERNOR GENERAL, CHIEF JUSTICE, ATTORNEY GENERAL AND JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT, LECTURED THREE TIMES AND APPEARED ON A PRIMETIME NATIONWIDE TELEVISION INTERVIEW. HIS VISIT AFFORDED POST CONTACT WITH AND CLOSE COOPERATION OF TOP JURISTS AND LEGAL OFFICIALS.

2. PRE-ELECTION ACTIVITIES, PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE AND EVENTUAL PASSAGE OF A NEW CONSTITUTION IN THE WEEKS PRIOR TO JUDGE THOMPSON'S ARRIVAL SEEMED TO COMPLICATE THE POST'S ORIGINAL PROGRAM PLAN TO INVOLVE THE SPEAKER IN ONE OR TWO PANEL DISCUSSIONS. DESPITE THE APPARENT LOCAL SENSITIVITY TO THE TOPICS CHOSEN AT THE TIME OF JUDGE THOMPSON'S VISIT AND THE WEIGHTINESS OF THE SUBJECT MATTER, JUDGE THOMPSON FULFILLED THE POST'S MAJOR AIMS: TO EXPOSE TARGET AUDIENCES TO AN OUTSTANDING MEMBER OF THE U.S. LEGAL COMMUNITY AND TO STIMULATE DISCUSSION OF BOTH THE U.S. CONSTITUTION AND LEGAL SYSTEM. HOWEVER, WE FOUND JUDGE THOMPSON SOMEWHAT LESS ARTICULATE ON HIS CHOSEN TOPICS AND CONCEPTUAL ISSUES THAN WE HAD HOPED. FIELD MESSAGE FOLLOWS.

FAY

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** OEXC, TD, US, (THOMPSON, WILLIAM S)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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